Frequently Asked Questions: Life Support Agency Equipment & Supplies

Below are questions and clarification of those questions regarding the updated equipment and supplies list that went into effect April 1, 2013.

1. Under Airway it lists Bag Valve Mask-hand operated self-expanding bags and underneath it lists Bag Valve Masks w/02 ports. Are these a different kind of BVM or are they one in the same?

This has been updated this to meet the national guidelines. The Bag Valve Masks with 02 ports have been removed.

The Bag Valve Mask hand operated self-expanding bags has language added that states: "Hand operated self-expanding bags – child (450-750 ml) (1) & adult (>1000 ml) (1) with oxygen reservoir/accumulator, valve (clear, operable in cold weather); and mask (adult, child, infant & neonate sizes)".

2. Will small foil blankets (those included w/OB kit) be acceptable to cover the thermal blanket requirement?

No, a full size blanket is required which may include: thermal absorbent, aluminum foil roll or appropriate heat reflective material.

3. What constitutes thermal absorbent blanket? Will foam blankets suffice?

Must be defined as "thermal absorbent" to help minimize heat loss.

4. Thermometer, how low does it need to go?

A hypothermic thermometer is recommended.

5. Flashlights – what kind?

Any kind of flashlight will suffice w/extra batteries and bulbs.

6. Syringes – 1cc (can we use a 10cc if it has a 1cc measurement?)

This was updated to meet the national guidelines. The sizes 10-12 cc and 1cc was removed and changed to "various sizes" (2).

7. Is the butterfly catheter requirement in addition to the IO requirement?

The Pediatric Butterfly/Scalp Needles have been removed and needles of various sizes added.

8. IV catheters – Clarification that need only 4 sizes and have 4 of those 4 sizes. Can this vary and be split?

Must have 4 of those 4 sizes, can not deviate.

9. Epi Pens- The list states 2, does this mean 2 adult and 2 child?

No, you only need 1 adult and 1 child.

10. Will the monitor-based capnography be sufficient to meet the End Tidal requirement for Intubation?

This has been changed to state: End/tidal Co2 detection capability, either quantitative capnography (1) or colormetric in sizes adult and pediatric (2).

11. Under IV – IO Needles, what size gauge needles are required for Adult /Pediatric?

Any size as long as you have an adult and a pediatric size.

12. Under Cardiac Monitor/Defibrillator, if no pediatric defib pads, can adult pads be used if in an anterior/posterior placement?

Yes this is acceptable.